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II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

U.N.O. publications for Madras Legislature Library.

* 61 Q.—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the **Hon.** the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras Legislature Library is subscribing for and getting all or any of the publications of U.N.O. and if not whether the Government propose to subscribe for all the publications of the U.N.O.;

(*b*) whether the Madras Legislature Library has subscribed for and is in possession of all the Command Papers of the United Kingdom and if not whether they propose to subscribe for them; and

(*c*) the amount spent to 1945–46 and 1946–47 for acquisition of publications and books for Legislature Library and on what basis and on whose advice the said publications and books were purchased?

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (*a*) The Library of the Madras Legislature has already addressed the U.N.O. Secretariat at New York to send all the publications published by the U.N.O. and a reply has been received stating that the arrangements for supply of the publications to the Legislature Library have been made as and when they are out and these publications are expected to reach the Library shortly.

"(*b*) The Legislature Library has already subscribed for the Command Papers of the British Parliament and they are being received regularly and are kept in the Library for Member's reference.

" (*c*) Rs. 2,093 have been spent in 1945–46 in purchasing books, periodicals, etc., for the Library. Due to shipping difficulties and war-time conditions it was not possible to spend more than the amount specified above in that year. Rupees 8,100 have been spent in 1946–47. There is a Library Committee which acts as an advisory body in suggesting and recommending books to be purchased and the Secretary to the Legislature selects the books for the Library."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the publications are received by air mail or by ordinary shipping?"

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" They will have to come by ordinary shipping only. Because receiving them by air mail will send up the cost tremendously. The weight allowed for air mails is very low, and if we are going to get parcels by air mail, the amount of money which will have to be paid will almost double itself."

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the publications ordered for include the publications of all the branches of the U.N.O. Secretariat?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" All the publications that are part of the U.N.O. Secretariat have been ordered for, and they have agreed to send them as soon as they are published."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Command Papers from 1920 onwards are being received or only recent publications are being received? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have lost touch with the Legislature Library which I knew well. But, as far as I can remember, I think we have got most of the papers connected with India and the Indian question, and other interesting papers like abolition of the Upper House and the way in which it should be reformed. These are to be found in our Library."

Dehydrated potatoes.

* 62 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government entered into any contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. for the manufacture of dehydrated potatoes and if so, what the terms of the contract were;

(b) whether Messrs. Parry & Co. were given interest-free advances, and if so, what the amount is;

(c) whether besides interest-free advances, Messrs. Parry & Co. were given any amounts as outright grants;

(d) whether Messrs. Parry & Co. fulfilled the terms of the contract;

(e) the quantity and price of dehydrated potatoes supplied;

(f) whether the dehydrated potatoes were sold to consumers at cost price or at a loss to Government;

(g) the total expenditure to Government on this account; and

(h) whether the contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. still subsists?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) Yes. The contract was for the dehydration of both potatoes and sweet potatoes. Two copies of G.O. Ms. No. 73, Food, dated 14th March 1946 containing the terms of the contract are placed in the Library of the Legislature.

" (b) Yes; an interest-free advance of Rs. 3,00,000 (rupees three lakhs) was given, but the company was not allowed to charge interest on working capital in consideration of this advance.

" (c) Yes. The company was permitted to incur an expenditure of Rs. 5,000 on repairs to the factory and an expenditure of Rs. 10,000 on replacement of major component parts of one of the heating systems in the factory and to charge the entire amount of Rs. 15,000 to the cost of manufacture during the